Example Teaching Assistant interview questions

Experience

What’s your experience of working with children?

What are your preferred subjects to assist?

Which subject area would you say you were strongest in?

What experience from your current post could you bring to the school?

When have you had to use your own initiative?

What skills do you have that you could bring to the job?

What experiences of working with children with SEN have you had? How did you support them?

Where do you see your career going?

The role

Why have you chosen this school?

Now that you have had a look around what do you think of our school?

What do you understand as the role of a TA?

What will your duties include as a Teaching Assistant?

Are the ways in which you feel you can support the programme of the extra-curricular provision in our school?
Can you give some ideas for after-school clubs?

Could you teach the x language to our children?

If a child came up to you and told you a secret that they were being harmed, what would you say to the child and what would you do?

You arrive to a class, there is no teacher present, a teacher still does not arrive, what would you do?

What are the three most important skills a TA needs?

How would you ensure the safety of children in the playground?

What are your strengths in relation to a TA role?

What can the school offer to help you in this role?

As this is a Faith school, how important are religious values?

**Working with others**

How could you liaise with a class teacher and parents?

If a parent saw you in a shop and asked you about a child in the class or even their own child what would you say?

What factors do you think make good teamwork?

What would you do if you didn’t agree with an activity your teacher planned?

You arrive at school in the morning and are faced with an angry parent, how might you deal with this?

How would you deal with a disagreement with another member of staff?
Can you tell us about an experience you have had where you have been positively involved / built a partnership with parents?

How would you contribute to the wider community?

**Discipline**

How would you react to a child not following your instructions?

What would your reaction be if a pupil were to swear at you?

What is the difference between noisy boisterous children in the playground and bad behaviour?

What sort of things would you refer to the class teacher and what would you deal with yourself?

Two year 6 pupils are arguing in the playground. How would you deal with this?

How would you deal with challenging behaviour? Can you give examples of this?

**Teaching methods**

What types of assessments are you familiar with?

In what ways can you contribute to the monitoring and assessment of children’s learning?

Can you give a specific example of how you helped a child progress?

What knowledge do you have of the National Curriculum?

What strategies would you use to help with learning?
What is the importance of observations?